

## Message Text

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43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /011 W

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P 231537Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8338

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MASERU PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2537

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (BINGHAN, JONATHAN B., BIESTER, EDWARD G., JR.)

SUBJ: CODEL BINGHAM AND CODEL BIESTER

REF: A) STATE 142379; B) STATE 143154

1. I AM VERY PLEASED CODELS WILL VISIT SOUTH AFRICA. I HAD INTENDED INVITE CONGRESSMEN BINGHAM AND BIESTER AND WIVES TO STAY WITH ME AND MRS. HURD. HOWEVER, SINCE MOST OF THEIR TIME IN SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE SPENT IN JOHANNESBURG, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INCONVENIENT FOR THEM TO COMMUTE FROM PRETORIA. FOR THAT REASON I RECOMMEND THEY STAY AT THE HOTEL CARLETON IN JOHANNESBURG. RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE THERE, SUBJECT TO CODELS' APPROVAL.

2. I HAVE DESIGNATED EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR PETTERSON TO BE CONTROL OFFICER AND HE WILL COORDINATE VISIT WITH CONGEN LUTKINS. AS FURTHER DETAILS OF CODELS' PROGRAM BECOME FIRM EMBASSY WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT BY CABLE.

3. BECAUSE AUGUST 8 FLIGHT FROM JOHANNESBURG TO BLOOMFONTEIN DEPARTS JAN SMUTS AIRPORT AT 0700, WE AGREE THAT DIRECT FLIGHT TO MASERU DEPARTING AT 0945 AND ARRIVING 1100 WOULD BE PREFERABLE (MASERU 0802). EMBASSY CONCURS WITH MASERU'S SUGGESTION USE DATT AIRCRAFT FLY CODELS PRETORIA AFTERNOON AUGUST 9, WITH FOLLOWING MODIFICATION. IT MUCH PREFERABLE CODELS BE DRIVEN TO BLOEMFONTEIN, WHERE THEY COULD BE PICKED UP BY  
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DATT PLANE. THIS WOULD OBIATE NEED FOR US TO OBTAIN INTER-

NATIONAL CLEARANCES AND SAG DFA APPROVAL. MOREOVER, WOULD AVOID PROBLEM IF BAD WEATHER INTERVENED. MASERU HAS NO INSTRUMENT APPROACH FACILITIES, BUT BLOOMFONTEIN DOES. IF CODEL COULD ARRIVE IN BLOEMFONTEIN IN TIME FOR 1500 DEPARTURE, THEY COULD BE AT PRETORIA AIRPORT BY 1630, IN TIME FOR EMBASSY BRIEFING AND DINNER AT RESIDENCE (SEE NEXT PARA).

4. IN REFTEL B DEPARTMENT SUGGESTED EMBASSY BRIEFING EITHER MORNING AUGUST 7 OR FRIDAY, AUGUST 10. IN VIEW LATE ARRIVAL JOHANNESBURG AUGUST 6, BELIEVE TRIP TO PRETORIA MORNING OF AUGUST 7 WOULD NOT ENABLE CONGRESSMEN BE FULLY RESTED BEFORE BEGINNING THEIR PROGRAM IN SOUTH AFRICA. INSTEAD OF AUGUST 10 BRIEFING IN PRETORIA, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, FOLLOWING CODELS' RETURN FROM MASERU.

5. IF TRIP TO PRETORIA AUGUST 9 IS ACCEPTABLE, MRS. HURD AND I WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR WIVES STAY WITH US THAT NIGHT. THIS MIGHT BE MORE CONVENIENT AND RESTFUL FOR THEM THAN RETURNING JOHANNESBURG SAME DATE. HOWEVER, IF CODELS AGREE TO AUGUST 9 TRIP TO PRETORIA BUT WISH RETURN JOHANNESBURG THAT NIGHT, I COULD ARRANGE EARLY DINNER.

6. IF AUGUST 10 DATE PREFERABLE FOR BRIEFING, WE CAN ARRANGE PRETORIA SCHEDULE FOR THAT DATE. REGARDLESS OF DATE CODELS COME TO PRETORIA, I VERY MUCH HOPE THEY WILL AGREE TO CALL ON SENIOR SAG OFFICIAL, PERHAPS FONMIN MULLER. SINCE CONGRESSMAN BIESTER LEAVING THAT NIGHT, IF CODELS ELECT TO COME TO PRETORIA AUGUST 10 I WOULD LIKE TO HOST LUNCHEON IN THEIR HONOR. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST WHICH ALTERNATIVE PREFERABLE AND WHETHER PRETORIA DINNER OR LUNCHEON SHOULD BE STAG OR WITH WIVES.  
HURD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** worrelsw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PRETOR02537  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PRETORIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730716/aaaaalsh.tel  
**Line Count:** 94  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION H  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 A) STATE 142379; B) STATE 143154  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** worrelsw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by worrelsw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CODEL BINGHAM AND CODEL BIESTER  
**TAGS:** OREP, SF, (BINGHAN, JONATHAN B)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005